Obstructing drains misdemeanor. Punishment. Claims for damages.

Right of appeal.

as little injury to the land as possible, and any person willfully obstructing such drains or ditches shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not less than five dollars for each day the obstruction remains. Any landowner considering himself damaged by reason of acts authorized in this section may, within sixty days from the commission of the act complained of, present his claim to the board of road commissioners, who shall pass thereon within thirty days, and the landowner may, within ten days from the notice of the decision, appeal to the Superior Court. If the owner shall not receive a greater amount of damages than that offered by the decision of the board of road commissioners, he shall be taxed with all the costs of appeal.

Location and change of roads.

Entry on land for surveys. Notice to landowners before construction.

Order for condemnation of land.

Land taken under condemnation.

Assessment of damages.

Sec. 7. The board of road commissioners shall have the power. on petition or upon their own motion, to locate, relocate, construct, widen, or otherwise change public roads or parts thereof, and to lay out and construct new roads when in their judgment the same will be advantageous to public travel, and for such purposes are authorized, through their agents, to enter upon lands to make the necessary surveys. Before doing any work of construction, apart from the surveying, the board of road commissioners shall give to the owner or owners of land over which the proposed new road or change of road may run, at least five days notice in writing of the time and place when and where the board will consider the question of condemning the necessary land. If the landowner be a minor or insane, such notice shall be given to him and his guardian; if there be no guardian, to the person with whom he is living. If the landowner be a nonresident or cannot be found within the county, such notice shall be mailed to his last known address and published in a newspaper published in Davie County at least ten days before the hearing. If the board shall find the proposed improvement advantageous to public travel and shall decide to condemn the land necessary for the road, they shall so declare and enter the order of condemnation in their minutes. Upon question of condemnation, the finding of the board shall not be subject to review. No strip of land wider than forty feet, with such additional width as shall be necessary for cuts and fills, shall be acquired by condemnation. Upon making the order of condemnation, the board shall have authority. through their agents, to immediately take possession of the land and construct the road. If the landowner, after the road has been relocated or changed, or after the new road has been opened, shall consider himself damaged, and shall be unable to agree with the board as to the amount of damages, he shall, within ninety days after opening, relocating, or otherwise changing the road, apply to the clerk of the Superior Court for an assessment of damages. Five days notice of such application shall be given to the board of road commissioners. The clerk of the court shall appoint and cause to be summoned a jury of three disinterested